

Message Text

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ACTION SCS-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 PA-01 ICA-11 SP-02 L-03 SS-15 NSC-05

CA-01 HA-05 PPT-01 H-01 /074 W

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FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4214

INFO AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CASC, UR

SUBJECT: SOVIET MFA COMPLAINT ABOUT TWO AMERICAN TOURISTS

REF: MOSCOW 16169 (NOTAL)

1. DURING MEETING WITH POLITICAL COUNSELOR AT MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS JULY 11 ON OTHER BUSINESS (REFTEL), DEPUTY CHIEF USA DIVISION ISAKOV READ STATEMENT COMPLAINING ABOUT BEHAVIOR OF TWO AMERICAN TOURISTS RECENTLY IN KISHINEV. ISAKOV DECLINED TO HAND OVER STATEMENT BUT, AS NOTED BY ACCOMPANYING EMBOFF, IT RAN AS FOLLOWS: QUOTE. AT BEGINNING OF JUNE JEROLD AND MIRIAM WEINBERGER (FYI, ALL NAMES PHONETIC) CONDUCTED ANTI-SOVIET AGITATION AMONG LOCAL POPULATION IN KISHINEV. THEY WERE AGITATING RESIDENTS TO EMIGRATE BY THE USE OF TENDENTIOUS AND SLANDEROUS INFORMATION. THEY WERE OFFICIALLY WARNED BUT THEY CONTINUED THEIR HOSTILE ACTIVITY. THIS AROUSED THE INDIGNATION OF SOVIET CITIZENS. ON JUNE 13 THEY WERE EXPELLED FROM THE USSR. IT IS EXPECTED THAT THE U.S. GOVERNMENT WILL UNDERTAKE THE NECESSARY MEASURES TO ENSURE THAT AMERICAN TOURISTS NOT CARRY OUT ACTIVITIES

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WHICH ARE NOT CONSISTENT WITH THE AIMS OF TOURISM.
END QUOTE.

2. IN COMMENTING THE POLITICAL COUNSELOR NOTED THAT THE U.S. GOVERNMENT DOES NOT TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE ACTIONS OF ITS PRIVATE CITIZENS ABROAD IN A TOURIST CAPACITY. HOWEVER, ISAKOV SHOULD BE AWARE

THAT INFORMATION ON TRAVEL IN THE USSR IS FURNISHED
PROSPECTIVE TOURISTS TO USSR APPLYING FOR PASSPORTS IN
WASHINGTON.

3. COMMENT: EMBASSY CONSULAR SECTION RECALLS
RECEIVING REPORT OF INCIDENT FROM SECOND-HAND
SOURCE IN JUNE BUT HAS NO FURTHER DETAILS. IF
DEPARTMENT HAS FURTHER INFORMATION, WE WOULD BE
INTERESTED IN DETERMINING WHETHER WEINBERGERS
WERE DETAINED BY SOVIETS, WHETHER THEY REQUESTED
CONTACT WITH AN AMERICAN CONSULAR OFFICER AND
IF SO WHETHER THEY WERE DENIED SUCH CONTACT IN
VIOLATION OF OUR CONSULAR AGREEMENT. MATLOCK

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Message Attributes

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Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 12 jul 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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